

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAGU 05216 120839Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /062 W

-----100283 121959Z /20

R 112137Z NOV 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4870

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

.AMEMBASSY PANAMA 1876

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSEX

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 5216

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, NU, PINT

SUBJECT: NATIONAL DIALOGUE--UPDATE

REF: MANAGUA 5116

SUMMARY: THE IMPULSE FOR A NATIONAL DIALOGUE HAS NOT ENTIRELY DISSIPATED BUT THE SENSE OF URGENCY THAT FOLLOWED THE OCTOBER GUERRILLA ATTACKS IS DECREASING. NEVERTHELESS, THE COMMITTEE TO COORDINATE THE DIALOGUE HEADED BY THE ARCHBISHOP CONTINUES ITS CONSULTATIONS AND NEW MANIFESTOS BY POLITICAL OPPOSITION AND "THE TWELVE" HAVE APPEARED. END SUMMARY.

1. THE IMPULSE FOR A NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON WAYS TO SOLVE THE SOCIO-POLITICAL PROBLEMS THAT HAVE BRED POLITICAL VIOLENCE HAS NOT DISAPPEARED, BUT THE SENSE OF URGENCY THAT FOLLOWED THE OCTOBER GUERRILLA ATTACKS IS DECREASING. THE COMMITTEE TO COORDINATE THE DIALOGUE HEADED BY ARCHBISHOP OBANDO Y BRAVO HAS CONTINUED TO DISCUSS BASES FOR A DIALOGUE WITH POLITICAL AND PRIVATE SECTOR GROUPS. ACCORDING TO A LA PRENSA STORY OF NOV. 4, THE ARCHBISHOP STATED THAT A
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANAGU 05216 120839Z

MAJORITY OF NICARAGUANS WERE IN AGREEMENT THAT THE DIALOGUE WAS NECESSARY TO CORRECT EVILS AND AVOID FURTHER BLOODSHED. REFERRING TO PRESIDENT SOMOZA'S STATEMENT THAT HE IS WILLING TO DIALOGUE BUT NOT AT PRESENT TIME (REFTEL), THE ARCHBISHOP NOTED THAT SOMOZA HAD LEFT THE DOOR OPEN TO THE DIALOGUE. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT THE ARCHBISHOP HAS ASKED POLITICAL AND PRIVATE SECTOR GROUPS FOR THEIR SUGGESTIONS FOR THE AGENDA, AND HAS MET WITH SOMOZA.

2. IN A DOCUMENT DATED NOV. 1, THE AGUERIST AND AUTENTICO FACTIONS OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY, THE SOCIAL CHRISTIAN PARTY FACTION PRE-SIDED BY ROGER MIRANDA, AND THE PARTIES AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT COMPOSE THE UNION OF DEMOCRATIC LIBERATION (UDEL), DECLARED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE ARCHBISHOP'S COMMITTEE, STATED THAT THEY WERE INVOLVED IN CONSULTATIONS AMONG THEMSELVES TO INITIATE A UNITED STRUGGLE FOR THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF NICARAGUA, AND THAT THEY WERE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN QUOTE ANY PATRIOTIC MEETINGS UNQUOTE CALLED BY THE ARCHBISHOP'S COMMITTEE. ALTHOUGH THE OFFICIALLY-RECOGNIZED CONSERVATIVE PARTY (PCN) WAS NOT A SIGNATORY, IT HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN CONSULTATIONS FOR THE DIALOGUE AND ITS LEADERS HAVE INDICATED SUPPORT FOR THE DOCUMENT'S PRINCIPLES.

3. ON NOV. 5, LA PRENSA PUBLISHED THE TEXT OF A NEW DOCUMENT SIGNED BY THE "TWELVE" (THE "TWELVE'S" ORIGINAL DOCUMENT HAD DENOUNCED GON REPRESSION AND CORRUPTION AND CALLED FOR A NATIONAL SOLUTION WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF THE FSLN). THE NEW STATEMENT DECLARES THAT QUOTE THERE CANNOT BE A DIALOGUE WITH SOMOZA NOT ONLY BECAUSE HE HIMSELF REJECTS IT BUT BECAUSE HE IS THE PRINCIPAL OBSTACLE TO ANY NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING. UNQUOTE. THE DOCUMENT CALLS ON NICARAGUANS TO QUOTE JOIN FORCES TO OBTAIN THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE SOMOCISTA DICTATORSHIP. UNQUOTE. IN A SPEECH AFTER HIS RETURN FROM THE UNITED STATES ON NOV. 6, UDEL PRESIDENT PEDRO J. CHAMORRO APPEARED TO REJECT A DIALOGUE WITH SOMOZA. CHARMORRO'S NEWSPAPER LA PRENSA, HOWEVER, HAS NOT PUBLICIZED THIS APPARENT REJECTION, WHICH WAS CRITIC-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MANAGU 05216 120839Z

CIZED BY SOME OF CHAMORRO'S OWN ALLIES.

4. COMMENT: WHILE MOST OF THE POLITICAL OPPOSITION CONTINUES TO BACK THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE AS A MEANS OF FORCING SOMOZA OUT, THE SENSE OF URGENCY OF SOME ELEMENTS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR APPEARS TO HAVE DIMINISHED AS THE MEMORY OF THE GUERRILLA ATTACKS RECEDES AND A MEASURE OF ECONOMIC NORMALITY RETURNS. THE RETURN OF A SIGNIFICANT PART OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO ITS USUAL POLITICALLY PASSIVE ROLE WOULD MAKE MEANINGFUL CONCESSIONS BY SOMOZA EVEN MORE UNLIKELY. HOWEVER, THE FSLN, WHICH HAS BEEN QUIESCENT SINCE THE MID-OCTOBER ATTACKS, MAY UNDERTAKE FURTHER ATTACKS IF THEY BELIEVE PROGRESS IS NOT BEING MADE TOWARD INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES AS A RESULT OF THE DIALOGUE. SUCH ACTIVITY WOULD LIKELY REKINDLE THE INTEREST OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN WORKING FOR CHANGE.

SOLAUN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MANAGU05216
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770419-0897
Format: TEL
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771170/aaaachrl.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1b4a0c1d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MANAGUA 5116
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 627869
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATIONAL DIALOGUE--UPDATE
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, NU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1b4a0c1d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009